

## LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A method for protecting use of resources in a network, comprising:
  - receiving a communication address request for a temporary communication address from user equipment, the communication address request including an identifier of the user equipment;
  - processing the communication address request based on a failure count accessed using the identifier for the user equipment, the failure count indicating a number of times the user equipment has been denied registration.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing step comprises:
  - accessing the failure count for the user equipment based on the identifier; and
  - ignoring the communication address request if the failure count exceeds a predetermined threshold.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the processing step comprises:
  - continuing with a registration process if the failure count does not exceed a predetermined threshold.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
  - incrementing the failure count for the user equipment if during the registration process the user equipment is not authenticated.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
  - sending a message to the user equipment instructing the user equipment not to attempt registration for a predetermined period of time if the incremented failure count equals or exceeds the predetermined threshold.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the user equipment is a mobile station in one of a wireless data network and a wireless voice network.
7. (Original)) The method of claim 5, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time has elapsed from the sending step.
8. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time.
9. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the continuing step continues the registration process if a failure count does not exist for the user equipment.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
incrementing the failure count for the user equipment if a failure count was accessed and if during the registration process the user equipment is not authenticated; and  
initializing a failure count for the user equipment to an initial value if a failure count does not exist for the user equipment and if during the registration process the user equipment is not authenticated.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the user equipment is a mobile station in one of a wireless data network and a wireless voice network.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
incrementing the failure count for the user equipment if during a registration process the user equipment is not authenticated.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
sending a message to the user equipment instructing the user equipment not to attempt registration for a predetermined period of time if the incremented failure count equals or exceeds the predetermined threshold.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time has elapsed from the sending step.
15. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
decrementing the failure count after a predetermined period of time.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing step continues a registration process if a failure count does not exist for the user equipment.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:  
incrementing the failure count for the user equipment if a failure count was accessed and if during the registration process the user equipment is not authenticated; and  
initializing a failure count for the user equipment to an initial value if a failure count does not exist for the user equipment and if during the registration process the user equipment is not authenticated.
18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user equipment is a mobile station in one of a wireless data network and a wireless voice network.